

1997 Chevrolet S10 Pickup

STEERING KNUCKLES - 4WD 1996-97 Drive Axles - 4WD Steering Knuckles

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ADJUSTMENTS

BALL JOINT TURNING EFFORT

NOTE: Front axle ball joint adjustment is only necessary when there is excessive play in steering, irregular wear on tire or persistent loosening of tie rod.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING KNUCKLE

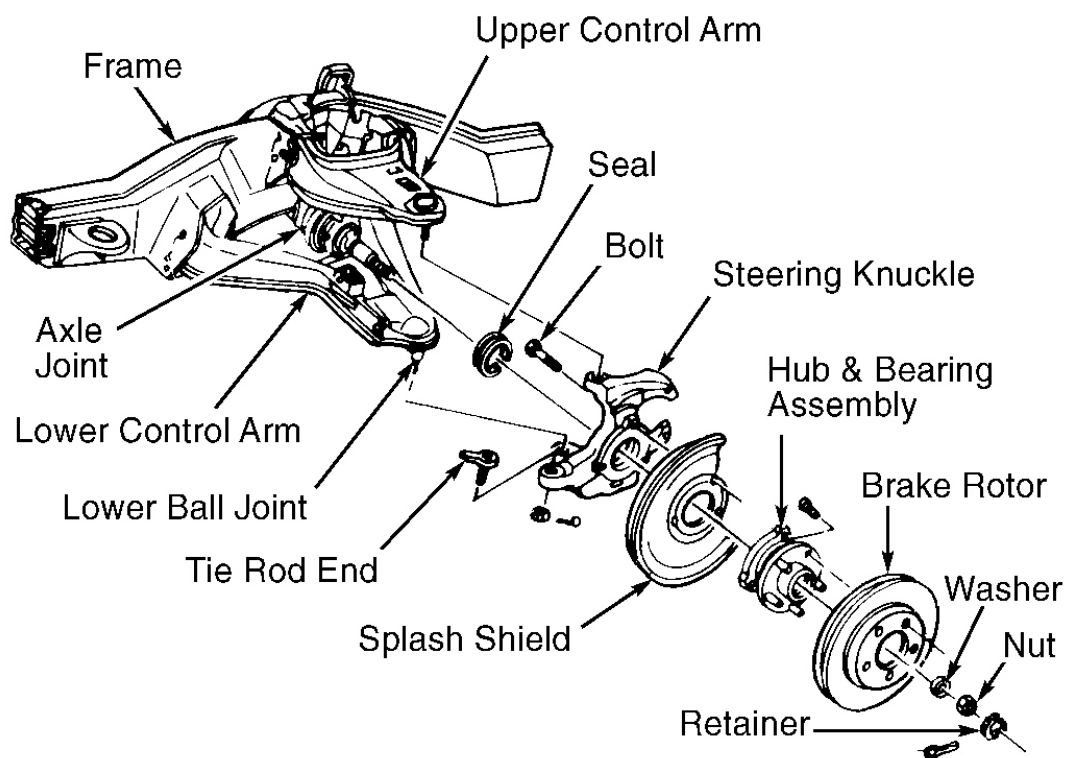
Removal

1. Raise and support vehicle. Remove wheel and tire assembly. Install Axle Shaft Boot Seal Protector (J-28712) on axle shaft boot to protect boot during repair. Depress brake caliper piston, detach brake caliper and wire aside. Remove brake rotor.
2. Remove cotter pin and retainer (if equipped) from axle shaft nut. Remove nut and washer from axle shaft. Remove cotter pin and tie rod end nut. Separate tie rod end from steering knuckle. See **Fig. 1**.
3. Attach puller to hub. Tighten pressure screw, and force axle shaft from hub and bearing assembly. Remove hub and bearing assembly from steering knuckle. Remove splash shield. Support lower control arm using floor jack or jackstand.

CAUTION: Support lower control arm with floor jack or jackstand to maintain tension on torsion bar.

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Fig. 1: Exploded View Of Hub & Steering Knuckle Assembly
Courtesy of GENERAL MOTORS CORP.

NOTE: "T" Series shown; "K" & "L" Series Are Similar.

4. Remove cotter pins from ball joint studs. On "T" Series, place Ball Joint Separator (J-34026) over upper or lower ball joint. See **Fig. 2** . Loosen ball joint nut. Back off until nut contacts ball joint separator. Continue backing off nut until nut forces ball stud out of steering knuckle.
5. On all other models, separate ball joint from steering knuckle using Ball Joint Separator (J-36607). On all models, remove steering knuckle from vehicle without damaging or moving axle shaft. Remove seal from steering knuckle.

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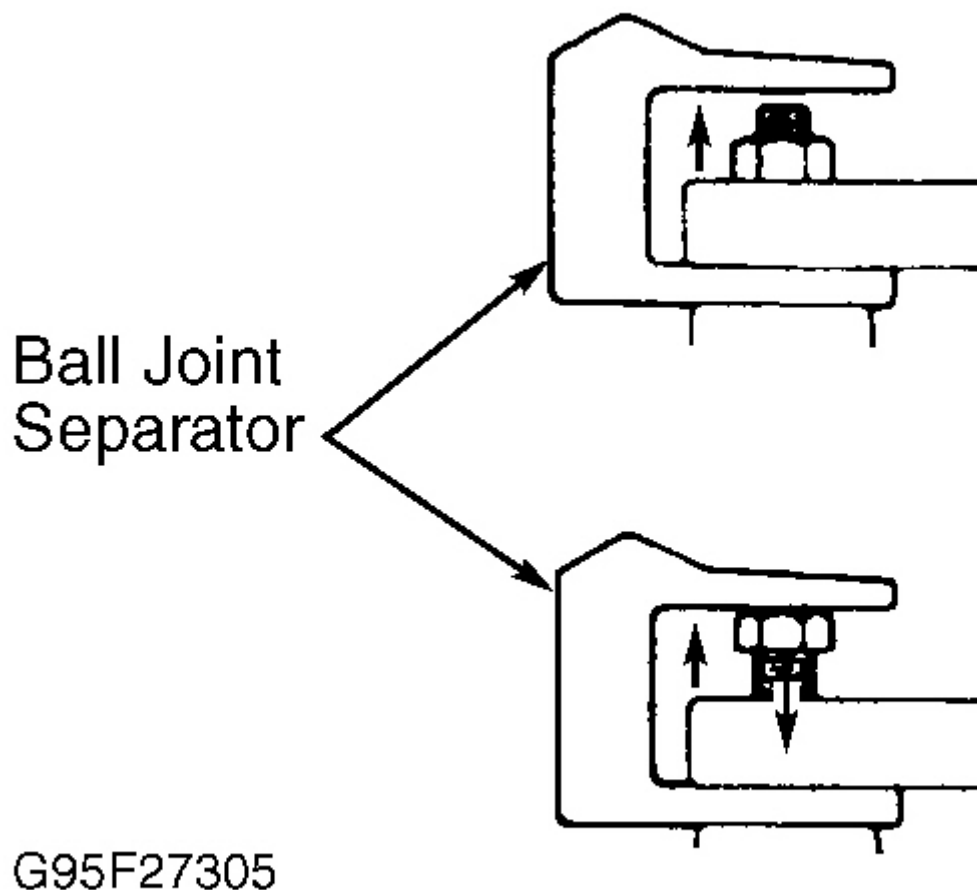


Fig. 2: Separating Ball Joint From Steering Knuckle ("T" Series)
Courtesy of GENERAL MOTORS CORP.

Installation

1. To install, reverse removal procedure. Install **NEW** seal into steering knuckle using Seal Installer (J-36605 for Astro and Safari; J-36606 for "K" Series; J-28574 for "T" Series).
2. On "T" Series, ensure spacer is installed on steering knuckle at upper ball joint stud hole. On all models, tighten bolts and nuts to specification. See **TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS** . If necessary, tighten tie rod and ball joint nuts to align cotter key hole. **DO NOT** loosen nuts for alignment. Remove boot protector from axle shaft.

TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS

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TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (N.m)
Astro & Safari	
Axle Shaft Nut	173 (235)
Ball Joint Nut (Lower)	94 (128)
Ball Joint Nut (Upper)	66 (90)
Brake Caliper Bolt	37 (50)
Hub & Bearing Assembly Bolt	66 (90)
Splash Shield Bolt	12 (16)
Tie Rod Nut	37 (50)
Wheel Lug Nut	103 (140)
"K" Series	
Axle Shaft Nut	173 (235)
Ball Joint Nut (Lower)	94 (128)
Ball Joint Nut (Upper)	74 (100)
Brake Caliper Bolt	37 (50)
Hub & Bearing Assembly Bolt	133 (180)
Splash Shield Bolt	19 (26)
Tie Rod Nut	35 (48)
Wheel Lug Nut	
Dual Wheel (Heavy-Duty)	177 (240)
Dual Wheel	140 (190)
Single Wheel	118 (160)
"T" Series	
Axle Shaft Nut	181 (245)
Ball Joint Nut	70 (95)
Brake Caliper Bolt	37 (50)
Hub & Bearing Assembly Bolt	77 (105)
Tie Rod Nut	35 (47)
Wheel Lug Nut	96 (130)